

For Immediate Release

IDOC PEN Employee Nationally Recognized

Bunker Hill, IN (March 31, 2010) – On Wednesday, March 23, 2010, Sandra Roark, Plant Manager at Miami Correctional Facility (MCF), was chosen as the recipient of the Central Region Staff Award and named to the 2010 NCIA Honor Roll at a banquet for the National Correctional Industries Association (NCIA).



Ms. Roark receiving her award at the NCIA national training conference in Cincinnati.

(Left to right) Denny Fracassi, President-Elect NCIA, Sandra Roark, Plant Manager, PEN Products, and Donald R. Guillory, President/Chairman NCIA

Ms. Roark was nominated for the award by her supervisors at PEN Products, Indiana's correctional industries, for her outstanding character and work ethic. Ms. Roark has been serving in her current post as Plant Manager at MCF for the past four years where she continues to be instrumental in creating and expanding programs for offenders. She has overseen the inception of a Braille transcription project, expanded the automotive aftermarket parts package operation, and has assisted in the partnership between the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) and the U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program.

Director Mike Herron of PEN Products said, "Sandra Roark is an exemplary employee. She understands the mission of PEN Products, teaching offenders valuable work skills while providing quality products and services. She motivates her staff, can always be counted on to perform at a high level, sees the big picture and works well within the facility. PEN Products is proud to have Sandra Roark as a plant manager and part of the PEN Products team."

During Ms. Roark's tenure the offender employment at Miami has increased from over 250 to 400 offender workers, the most in any PEN Products operation.

IDOC Commissioner Edwin Buss commended Ms Roark on her award, stating, "This is a well deserved achievement for Ms. Roark, and we thank her for all of her exceptional work in her years with the Department and PEN Products."